

INTERNATIONAL SHOW CAVES ASSOCIATION

THE INTERNATIONAL SHOW CAVES ASSOCIATION (ISCA)
CELEBRATES THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF CAVES AND
THE SUBTERRANEAN WORLD 2023

Frasassi/Genga-Italy (May 17, 2023) — On June 6, the <u>International Show Caves Association</u> (ISCA) will be celebrating the International Day of Caves and the Subterranean World, a date marked in the calendar of show caves, mines, organisations and show cave managers from all over the world.

During the next few days, especially at the weekend -June 10 and 11-, a series of varied and different events will take place at the different show caves participating. These include special offers for families and groups of friends, concerts, photography contests and other activities addressed to the general public.

In a joined effort to reach the official declaration of June 6 by UNESCO, the International Show Caves Association will be focusing on the power of social media and the technological world in order to show the global impact, both regarding tourism and job opportunities, which show caves provide.

For this reason, ISCA encourages all entities to collaborate in such a special day by sharing their actions with the hashtag #CaveDay on any of the most famous social networks at their disposal, as well as other media-related possibilities. The ISCA official Facebook page will be sharing different publications in order to reach a wider audience, and all the information will be collected in order to be published in future releases, including the ISCA Newsletter which is published every other month and whose next issue is expected to be available on July 1 on the association's main page.

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The President of the International Show Caves Association, Friedrich Oedl, reflected upon "the importance of show caves not only nationally and internationally speaking, but also in terms of regional economies," and insisted on "the necessity of taking this celebration to the rest of the world so that they learn about the entertaining and learning possibilities of caves and the subterranean

Consequently, the International Show Caves Association and the Spanish Show Caves Association (ACTE) have worked together to provide others with a <u>dossier</u> which reflects the work carried out in the last years in order to reach government entities and create awareness about the importance of June 6 for thousands of people worldwide, as well as its impact on the everyday life of millions of people.

According to the <u>ISCA Show Caves Business Survey 2022</u>, in which respondents from across twenty five different countries provided really useful data, nowadays over 120 million people visit a show cave at least once a year generating over \$2 billion, which has an incredible effect in terms of economy for those communities which manage any of those show caves, as well as for individuals and families who can take advantage of job opportunities. Thousands of people are employed at show caves.

Other associations will also be joining the celebration of the International Day of Caves and the Subterranean World, including the Spanish Show Caves Association (ACTE) and the Federation Française du Tourism & Patrimoine Souterrain (French Federation of Subterranean Tourism and Heritage, FFTS), among others.

The International Show Caves Association (ISCA) was founded in 1990 and is headquartered in Frasassi/Genga, Italy. ISCA is an international organisation of persons, associations, corporations, and government agencies who own, manage or operate show caves that are open to the public. ISCA provides a critical forum for show caves to network and collaborate on matters pertaining to their caves. ISCA aims to promote, encourage, and support the cooperation of show cave operators, speleologists and cave enthusiasts through the sharing of information and to promote the preservation and conservation of caves, while increasing public interest in the world of show caves by way of unique marketing and the evolution of methods to enhance the show cave experience.

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world."

More information about the International Show Caves Association can be found on the official website: www.i-s-c-a.org.

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